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September 11, 2018

VIA ECF

Honorable Stuart M. Bernstein United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of New York One Bowling Green, Room 723 New York, New York 10004-1408 Bernstein.chambers@nysb.uscourts.gov

Re: Securities Investor Protection Corporation v. Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (SMB); Picard v. Shapiro, et al., Adv. Pro. No. 10-05383 (SMB)

Dear Judge Bernstein:

We are counsel to Irving H. Picard (the "Trustee"), as trustee for the substantively consolidated SIPA liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC ("BLMIS") and the estate of Bernard L. Madoff, and as plaintiff in the above-referenced adversary proceeding against the Shapiro family defendants ("Defendants"). In support of the parties' proposed Fifth Amendment to the Case Management Plan, we write at Your Honor's request to explain why the parties were unable to complete discovery under the time allotted in the current Case Management Plan.

The proposed Fifth Amendment seeks, *inter alia*, to extend the fact discovery deadline for an additional four months, from September 30, 2018 to January 31, 2019. The extension is necessary because Defendants only recently were compelled to produce (*see* ECF No. 105), and certain Defendants did produce, documents in response to the Trustee's requests, which he originally served in October of 2016 and then reframed more than fifteen months ago. Questions remain regarding Defendants' production. On August 18, 2018, the Trustee's counsel wrote a letter to Your Honor requesting a conference regarding whether Defendants have retained responsive documents, have engaged in spoliation, and improperly maintained objections to requests to which they possess no responsive documents. (*See* ECF No. 108.) Nevertheless, with Defendants' document production now seemingly substantially complete, the Trustee is finally in a position to begin taking depositions.

By contrast, the Trustee voluntarily began a rolling production to Defendants at the start of discovery and thereafter produced documents at regular intervals in response to Defendants'

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¹ It was in this reframed form that the Court ordered Defendants to produce responsive documents.

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document requests. The Trustee substantially completely his production by August 2017. A few supplemental productions followed. In total, the Trustee has produced to Defendants more than 30,000 documents consisting of more than 800,000 pages.

The Trustee is eager to move this case along but simply has not been in a position to do so until only recently. In light of the above, the Trustee respectfully requests that the Court enter the proposed Fifth Amendment to the Case Management Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

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